

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
114TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION

JUNE 1990

Staff:

David C. Elliott, Principal Analyst
Deborah C. Friedman, Legislative Analyst

Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Room 101, State House Station 13
Augusta, ME 04333
(207) 289-1670

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BRET A. PRESTON, RES. ASST.

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
ROOM 101/107/135
STATE HOUSE STATION 13
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333
TEL.: (207) 289-1670

**One Hundred and Fourteenth Legislature
Second Regular Session**

**Joint Standing Committee
Bill Summaries**

June 1990

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees and Joint Select Committees of the Maine Legislature. The summaries are arranged by LD number for each committee.

All Adopted Amendments are listed, by paper number (e.g., H-584 or S-222), together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action is listed to the right of the title. Committee Reports and Floor Action are abbreviated as follows:

OTP	Ought to Pass
OTP-ND	Ought to Pass in New Draft
OTP-ND-NT	Ought to Pass in New Draft, New Title
OTP-A	Ought to Pass as Amended
ONTP	Ought Not to Pass
LVWD	Leave to Withdraw
INDEF PP	Indefinitely Postponed

Each individual summary was prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. But, this document was produced by the efforts of all the office staff, including secretaries: Charlene Raymond, and Valarie Parlin, and especially Laurette Knox who coordinated preparation of the overall document.

Please give us your suggestions and comments on these summaries and tell us of any inaccuracies.

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
ESTES NORTON CROWLEY PARADIS J	OTP-AM	

SUMMARY

This bill was carried over from the 1st Regular Session. As amended in the 1st Regular Session, the bill would reimburse school administrative units for the costs of land purchases that are not made in conjunction with a school construction project. Reimbursement would only be permitted for purchases approved by the legislative body of the local unit and by the Commissioner of Education.

In the 2nd Regular Session, the Committee voted to recommend passage of the bill with the same amendment as in the 1st Regular Session. This amendment was Committee Amendment "B" (S-509) to the bill.

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
CARROLL D ESTES ANDREWS KILKELLY	LV/WD	

SUMMARY

This bill, as amended, would have authorized students to refrain from participating in biological dissection and established a range of equivalent alternatives which schools would provide to students who exercised that option. The bill, with amendment, was favorably reported out of committee and enacted by both houses last session. However, it was not signed by the Governor before adjournment; and the Governor indicated he would veto it when the Legislature reconvened.

In January, the Legislature voted to recall the bill from the Governor's desk and it was reassigned to the Education Committee. In committee, a compromise solution was agreed on which resulted in the bill being withdrawn. The Commissioner of Education sent an advisory letter to each school superintendent outlining the right of students to refrain from dissection and giving examples of policies to be adopted locally which would protect that right.

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
ANTHONY CLARK N GILL PARADIS J	LV/WD	

SUMMARY

This bill would have created the Youth-at-Risk Alternative Education Program to address middle school and high school truancy and dropout problems. The program would have consisted of a grant program to assist qualifying schools to plan for and to implement dropout prevention programs.

The bill was favorably reported out by the Education Committee last year. It was carried over by the Appropriations Committee from last session and referred back to the Education Committee in January.

Due to lack of funding, the committee voted "Leave to Withdraw" on the bill this year.

LD 902 An Act Regarding the Maine Technical College System VETO SUSTAINED

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
MARTIN J	OTP-A1 MAJ	H-735 MAJ REP
O'DEA	ONTP MIN	
PARADIS P		
BUSTIN		

SUMMARY

The original bill, which was carried over by the Education Committee, would have incorporated the Technical College System into the University of Maine System. As amended by the majority report of the Committee this session (H-735), the bill would have changed the makeup of the board of trustees of the Technical College System by removing the commissioners of Labor, Economic Development and Education as ex officio members and the state board and University System members. The amended bill would also have directed the board to conduct an ongoing comprehensive planning process.

The bill was vetoed by the Governor and the veto was sustained.

LD 1066 An Act Concerning Educational Enhancement INDEF PP

SPONSOR(S)	COMMITTEE REPORT	AMENDMENTS ADOPTED
CROWLEY	OTP-AM	H-896
MARTIN J		H-959 CROWLEY
NORTON		
BRANNIGAN		

SUMMARY

The original bill would have provided supplemental grants to teachers pursuing continuing study or advanced degrees, grants to school units to enhance teacher salaries and grants to school units to be used to improve the use of school instructional time.

The bill, which had a large financial impact, was carried over by the Appropriations Committee and referred back to the Education Committee in January. The Committee Amendment (H-896) deleted provisions of the original bill establishing grants to teachers for advanced study and to school units for teacher salary enhancement. The grants to school units for improving the use of instructional time were retained and amended. The amendment established a local collaborative process for development of a plan for use of the grants and directed the department to study and report on the grant program.

The House Amendment (H-959) clarified the minimum amount of a grant, \$2,000 per unit on \$20 per pupil, whichever is greater.